

- P2
11. A urine management device according to claim 10, further comprising absorbent gelling materials.
  12. A urine management device according to claim 10, further comprising absorbent material disposed internal to said flexible bag and not joined to said inner lining.

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REMARKS

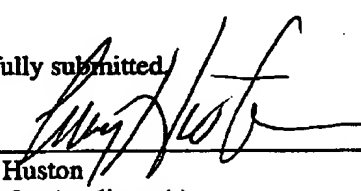
Claim 1 is amended to recite a urine management device having an inner lining. The inner lining has absorbent material disposed on and joined to the inner surface of the inner lining. Claims 7-9 are canceled to further expedite and simplify prosecution on the merits. Claims 10-12 are added to further specify the absorbent material associated with the urine management device. Basis for the amendments is found in the specification (para. bridging p. 9-10 and first para. on p. 10). No new matter is added.

The amendment to Claim 1 clarifies the disposition of Applicants' claimed absorbent material is opposite that found in Schneider et al. (5,417,677). Further, the claimed disposition of Applicants' absorbent material provides for absorption of body waste by the absorbent material – a benefit unachievable by the arrangement of Schneider et al., which places tissue paper outside the inner lining of side walls 11, 12. Applicants respectfully and gratefully note that the Advisory Action of Mar. 20, 2003 states the proposed addition of the limitation reciting the absorbent material disposed on the inner surface of the inner lining will overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) with respect to Schneider et al. Applicants acknowledge the Advisory Action states the addition of this limitation will also require further search.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendments requested hereunder, and to reconsider and allow Claims 1-6 and 10-12 which remain in the application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) Urine management device comprising a flexible bag having an inner lining, said inner lining having an inner surface and an outer surface opposed thereto, said bag having an aperture and a flange surrounding said aperture, said flange having a wearer facing portion and a garment facing portion, wherein said wearer facing portion comprises a layer of adhesive for releasable attachment to the uro-genital area of a wearer, said device being characterized in that said flange is provided with at least one non-adhesive lobe, said flexible bag containing absorbent material disposed on and joined to said inner surface of said inner lining.

Claims 7-9 have been canceled.

Claims 10-12 have been added.